



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LANSING

March 12, 2003



THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution on Days of Remembrance in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

Attached is a draft resolution on Days of Remembrance in memory of the Victims of the Holocaust.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education adopt the resolution attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated March 12, 2003 on Days of Remembrance in memory of the Victims of the Holocaust

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State of Michigan
State Board of Education

RESOLUTION

DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE IN MEMORY
OF THE VICTIMS OF THE HOLOCAUST

WHEREAS, the Holocaust was the state-sponsored, systematic persecution and annihilation of European Jewry by Nazi Germany and its collaborators between 1933 and 1945, Jews were the primary victims – six million were murdered; Gypsies, the handicapped, and Poles were also targeted for destruction or decimation for racial, ethnic, or national reasons. Millions more, including homosexuals, Jehovah's Witnesses, Soviet prisoners of war and political dissidents, also suffered grievous oppression and death under Nazi tyranny; and

WHEREAS, the history of the Holocaust offers an opportunity to reflect on the moral responsibilities of individuals, societies, and governments; and

WHEREAS, we should always remember the terrible events of the Holocaust and remain vigilant against hatred, persecution, and tyranny; and

WHEREAS, we should actively rededicate ourselves to the principles of individual freedom in a just society; and

WHEREAS, the Days of Remembrance have been set aside to remember the victims of the Holocaust as well as to reflect on the need for respect of all people; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an Act of Congress (Public Law 96-388, October 7, 1980) the United States Holocaust Memorial Council has designated the Days of Remembrance of the victims of the Holocaust to be Sunday, April 27 through Sunday, May 4, 2003, including the international Day of Remembrance known as *Yom Hashoah*, April 29; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education proclaim the week of Sunday, April 27, through Sunday, May 4, 2003, as Days of Remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, and in honor of the survivors, as well as the rescuers and liberators; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That the State Board of Education proclaim that we, as citizens should strive to overcome intolerance and indifference through learning and remembrance.